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United Nations

Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

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Supplement No. 26

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Chapter I
Introduction

1. The Committee on Relations with the Host Country was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971. The General Assembly, by its resolution 65/35 of 6 December 2010, decided to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country". The present report is submitted pursuant to resolution 65/35.

2. The report consists of four sections. The recommendations and conclusions of the Committee are contained in section IV.

Chapter II

Membership, composition, terms of reference and organization of the work of the Committee

3. The Committee is composed of 19 members, as follows:

Bulgaria	Iraq
Canada	Libya
China	Malaysia
Costa Rica	Mali
Côte d'Ivoire	Russian Federation
Cuba	Senegal
Cyprus	Spain
France	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Honduras	United States of America
Hungary	

4. The Bureau of the Committee consists of the Chair, the three Vice-Chairs, the Rapporteur and a representative of the host country who attends Bureau meetings ex officio. During the reporting period, the Bureau was composed as follows:

Chair:

Minas Hadjimichael (Cyprus)

Vice-Chair:

Zlatko Dimitrov (Bulgaria)
Keith Morill (Canada)
Jean N'Gbichi (Côte d'Ivoire) — Théodore Dah (Côte d'Ivoire)

Rapporteur:

Magda Rojas (Costa Rica) — Marcela Zamora (Costa Rica)

5. At its 251st meeting, the Committee was informed of the departure of Jean N'Gbichi (Côte d'Ivoire), who had served as a Vice-Chair, and welcomed Théodore Dah (Côte d'Ivoire) to serve as a Vice-Chair. At its 252nd meeting, the Committee was informed of the departure of Magda Rojas (Costa Rica), who had served as Rapporteur, and welcomed Marcela Zamora (Costa Rica) to serve as Rapporteur.

6. The terms of reference of the Committee were determined by the General Assembly in its resolution 2819 (XXVI). In May 1992, the Committee adopted, and in March 1994 slightly modified, a detailed list of topics for its consideration, which is set out in annex I to the present report. The Committee issued three documents during the reporting period (see annex II).

7. During the reporting period, the Committee held the following meetings: the 250th meeting, on 3 February 2011; the 251st meeting, on 31 March 2011; the 252nd meeting, on 22 July 2011; the 253rd meeting, on 7 October 2011; and the 254th meeting, on 2 November 2011.

Chapter III
Topics dealt with by the Committee

A. Host country activities: activities to assist members of the United Nations community

8. At the 250th meeting, the representative of Libya expressed the concern of his Permanent Mission regarding the unresolved issue of finding an alternative banking facility owing to the decision by JPMorgan Chase Bank to close all bank accounts held by permanent missions to the United Nations by 31 March 2011. He underlined the obligation of the host country to ensure that Permanent Missions are capable of operating properly, and stated that such closures would constitute a great disturbance to the functioning of the Permanent Mission of Libya and other Permanent Missions. He wished to hear from the host country about any developments concerning this issue as well as appropriate and tangible steps being taken by the host country to resolve the matter.

9. The observer of the Syrian Arab Republic stated that he, too, wished to receive an update regarding the efforts being made by the host country regarding the Chase banking matter. He noted that at a briefing organized by the United States Mission to the United Nations on 13 January 2011, the Permanent Missions had been informed of the steps being taken by the United States Government to find alternative banking services for Permanent Missions. He said that he had hoped that a simple solution would have been more forthcoming. He stated that the threat of account closures was greatly affecting the performance of the Permanent Missions. He therefore hoped that the host country representatives had positive developments to report.

10. The observer of Uganda stated that the host country had the responsibility to help facilitate the work of the Permanent Missions and ensure the availability of services that were necessary and critical for their performance. He was concerned that even though the host country had assured the Permanent Missions at the time of the briefing that they would be informed of steps being taken to assist them, time was running out, and the deadline for the account closures was fast approaching. He stated that it would be impossible for the Permanent Missions to function if their bank accounts were closed. He emphasized that this was a serious issue and expressed the hope that an agreeable solution to the problem would soon be found.

11. The observer of the Islamic Republic of Iran stated that, since the briefing by the host country in January, the Permanent Missions had not been presented with any feasible alternative banking solutions, nor had they received any further news from the host country regarding the matter. He noted that the United Nations depended on the assessed contributions of its Member States to conduct its activities, and he was therefore concerned that should a solution not be found, some Member States consequently would not be able to effect payment of their assessed contribution through their Permanent Missions in New York and that the credibility of the United Nations, the Secretary-General and the host country would be affected. He stated that some countries had announced that they would be forced to close down their Permanent Missions in New York City, and he expressed regret for the lack of involvement of the Secretary-General in finding a solution. He said that it was the responsibility of the Secretary-General to assist in resolving the matter,

and he therefore requested the Secretary-General to actively pursue a solution to this problem. He also suggested that the possibility that the United Nations Federal Credit Union (UNFCU) would provide financial services to the Permanent Missions should be explored.

12. The Chair informed the Committee that the Secretary-General would be apprised of the concerns that had been expressed.

13. The representative of the Russian Federation stated that, even though the issue was very unpleasant, the Russian Federation would not close its Permanent Mission. He noted that some Permanent Missions had already begun looking for appropriate solutions on their own. As one possible solution, he proposed that the Permanent Missions look for an alternative bank that would show more understanding for their needs and specificities. At the same time, the representative of the Russian Federation requested assurances from the host country that it would make a greater effort in finding a solution to this problem for all Permanent Missions and that it would assist in creating conditions whereby this situation would not occur again in the future.

14. The representative of the host country responded to the concerns raised by reassuring the Permanent Missions that the issue was being addressed at the highest levels of the United States Government. He stated that the United States Government was in contact with top management officials at JPMorgan Chase and other banks, and was looking for both long- and short-term solutions. He also reiterated what had been explained at the January briefing, stating that the primary challenge was that the United States Government did not control private banks in the United States and that the Federal Reserve Banks did not conduct any commercial banking operations. JPMorgan Chase was a profit-making institution that had decided it was no longer profitable to operate foreign government bank accounts. The representative of the host country reassured the Committee that the host country understood the importance of this issue and stated that it would continue to solicit the concerns of the Permanent Missions, which they would then convey to senior United States Government officials in Washington, D.C.

15. The observer of the Syrian Arab Republic thanked the representative of the host country for his explanation, but reminded him that the information provided was the same as that which had been given at the briefing on 13 January 2011 and that no updates had yet been provided. He requested that the host country take more practical measures to resolve this problem. There was a need to find a balance between the requirements of the United States banking system and the needs of the Permanent Missions so that they could continue to carry out their work. He reminded the host country that only the host country had the ability to find this balance, and reiterated that banking was an essential service that must be provided to the Permanent Missions by the host country.

16. The Chair expressed his concern that a number of Permanent Missions remained unable to find suitable banking alternatives to JPMorgan Chase despite the rapidly approaching deadline. The Chair noted that the United States Government had taken its obligations to the Permanent Missions seriously, and stated that he was particularly encouraged that the United States Secretaries of State and the Treasury were personally engaged in finding an appropriate solution to the problem. He expressed his sincere hope that a solution would soon be found and stated that he was available to provide all possible assistance in facilitating a solution.

17. At the 251st meeting, the observer of the Islamic Republic of Iran expressed concern about the unresolved issue of the closure of all bank accounts held by the Permanent Missions at JPMorgan Chase Bank, noting that the deadline for the closures had been extended by two weeks. He recognized the efforts being made by the United States Mission to resolve the issue, but noted that these efforts could be truly appreciated only if they led to concrete solutions. He stated that an operating bank account was an essential requirement for the proper functioning of any diplomatic mission, and he therefore requested the host country to assume its responsibility in this matter and provide a long overdue solution. He also questioned the argument that the problem had arisen as a result of a decision taken by a private bank over which the Government of the host country had no influence, and noted that every financial institution operates within a legal framework enforced by the Government. The host country possessed significant influence over United States banks, which it could use to help bring about a definitive solution. He also expressed frustration that the Permanent Missions had to allocate significant time, energy and human resources to finding alternative banking institutions, and noted that some had still not been successful. The observer of the Islamic Republic of Iran considered the issue to be extremely urgent and noted that Permanent Missions without a banking solution would soon become inoperable, adding that without a bank account to receive funds from their capital, the Member States affected might not be able to pay their assessed contribution to the United Nations budget. He questioned who would be held accountable in the event that this resulted in the loss of that Member State's right to vote. He expressed his appreciation of the host country's offer to open a bank account with Washington First Bank, located in Washington, D.C., but pointed out that this bank had only three branches and no physical presence in New York City, thus making it an impractical solution. Moreover, although this solution was being recommended as an interim measure, he had doubts about the expedience with which this measure would be replaced by a permanent solution. The observer of the Islamic Republic of Iran reiterated his previous suggestion of using UNFCU as an alternative financial institution and requested the assistance of the Secretariat and the Secretary-General in accelerating the process. In addition, he called upon the Committee to officially inform the General Assembly of the matter so that it could expedite the process of finding a solution and reiterated the necessity, in his view, of the determined involvement of the Secretary-General, as the chief executive officer of the Organization, in finding a solution to the problem.

18. The observer of the Syrian Arab Republic welcomed the considerable efforts made by the Mission of the host country for its efforts in finding a solution that would be acceptable to everyone. He expressed his confidence that the Mission of the host country recognized the true nature of this crisis and its impact on the Permanent Missions. He reminded the Committee that the Permanent Missions in New York worked within a legal framework under the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and the Headquarters Agreement, which provided for certain rights and obligations of Member States, including the right to work in a flexible and independent manner, and stated that the host country had a duty to facilitate the work of the diplomatic missions. He noted that if the Permanent Missions were unable to open bank accounts in New York, this would clearly have a negative impact on their work. He explained that the request by JPMorgan Chase Bank to close the account of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic had caused a lot of problems for himself, as the head of the Permanent Mission, as well as for

the entire mission. He further noted that his Permanent Mission had still not been able to find an alternative banking facility, despite having contacted dozens of banks. He considered that the Headquarters Agreement between the host country and the United Nations required the Secretary-General to intervene if the Agreement was not being properly implemented, and called upon the Chair of the Committee to request the Secretary-General to become involved in finding a solution. He questioned the explanation provided that the decision to close the accounts was due to a lack of financial profitability. He noted in this regard that while some Permanent Missions had trouble opening new accounts with different banks, others did not. He also stated that it would be impractical to open an account with Washington First Bank in Washington, D.C., owing to its distance from New York. He wished to reiterate his suggestion that Permanent Missions be authorized to open accounts with UNFCU, which would grant the Permanent Missions some stability and allow them to deal with a bank affiliated with the United Nations rather than with a private bank. Furthermore, he noted that a further extension of two weeks before closing of the JPMorgan Chase bank accounts would allow them time to open accounts with UNFCU, if necessary. Finally, the observer of the Syrian Arab Republic expressed his concern that this issue was a great burden on the diplomats and staff of Permanent Missions as it diverted them from pursuing their official diplomatic activities.

19. The observer of Nicaragua expressed his sympathy for the Permanent Missions that were still having problems locating alternative banking facilities, even though Nicaragua had been able to open a new bank account. He noted that it was quite clear that the provisional measures proposed by the host country were not sufficient. He added that the reasons put forth by the banks for refusing to open foreign accounts — that they would represent unsustainable economic problems — was without foundation. Accordingly, the observer of Nicaragua expressed his support for the proposal that UNFCU provide banking services to the Permanent Missions.

20. The observer of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela thanked the host country and the Committee for their efforts in trying to solve the banking problem and expressed her support for the requests made by the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Syrian Arab Republic that the Secretary-General inform the General Assembly about the situation. Although her Permanent Mission had felt it necessary to open an account with Washington First Bank so that it could continue to function, she agreed with their assessment that Washington First Bank was not a viable alternative. In her view, small banks such as Washington First Bank would have the same cost issues that caused JPMorgan Chase Bank to close the accounts of the Permanent Missions, which could again lead to account closures in the future. She expressed the hope that a lasting solution would soon be found.

21. The representative of Cuba expressed his solidarity with the Permanent Missions that were facing difficulties. He observed that, after six months, a satisfactory and lasting solution needed to be found in the Committee. He also underlined the importance of non-discrimination between the Member States of the United Nations, which was a basic principle of the Organization. He fully supported taking all measures that would help resolve the issue.

22. The observer of Ecuador expressed his support for the Permanent Missions facing difficulties with the banking issue. He considered the temporary solution offered by the host country to be insufficient and stressed the importance of finding

a permanent solution. The observer of Ecuador was concerned that the present situation was seriously affecting the work of the Permanent Missions. Accordingly, he felt that a greater involvement of the Secretary-General would be indispensable to finding a permanent solution to this problem.

23. The representative of the host country stated that she understood the frustration that some Member States were experiencing after having applied, in some cases multiple times, to various financial institutions and still not finding alternative banking facilities. The host country took its responsibility very seriously and it had been working very hard to help Member States as best as it could, which could be seen by the progress that had already been made. She informed the Committee that 112 of the 150 Permanent Missions with JPMorgan Chase accounts had opened new accounts with alternative institutions. The remaining 38 Permanent Missions had been personally contacted with the suggestion of Washington First Bank as a viable option, and 25 of them had asked for a letter of recommendation for the bank. She noted further that the host country authorities had provided letters of introduction to over 50 Permanent Missions for Washington First Bank and other banks. The representative of the host country explained that while the host country was doing as much as it could to help Member States open new accounts, each Member State had the responsibility of exploring all possibilities for finding new banking services. She stated that, even though for some Permanent Missions having a bank in New York was of critical importance, Washington First Bank, located in Washington, D.C., was a viable option, as it could provide services such as checking accounts, electronic banking, debit cards and automated teller machine (ATM) service. Permanent Missions would have the ability to access their checking accounts via ATMs located in New York from which they could withdraw up to $1,000 per day. She expressed her understanding that for many Member States, this was not the most convenient option, but she encouraged them to open an account with Washington First Bank, at least as an interim measure. She further recommended that Member States try to open accounts with the banks providing services to their respective embassies in Washington, D.C., since often in practice those banks are willing to take on both the embassy and the Permanent Mission and might have branches in New York. The representative of the host country offered the assistance of her Mission and urged the Permanent Missions still facing problems to contact her. Finally, she expressed the hope that at the next meeting, all Member States would have new bank accounts.

24. The Chair thanked the host country for the steps already taken to alleviate the banking problem and for its understanding of the continuing difficulties of the Permanent Missions. He expressed concern that an overall solution to this matter had not emerged and that 38 Permanent Missions were still unable to find a suitable banking alternative to JPMorgan Chase. He noted that it was encouraging to hear that an extension had been granted by JPMorgan Chase beyond the deadline of 31 March, and expressed the hope that this would provide sufficient time to find a solution. He noted that the host country and its Mission to the United Nations took seriously the obligations of the host country to find a satisfactory solution to this issue and expressed the hope that a solution would be found as soon as possible. The Chair concluded by stating that he remained available to provide any possible assistance in facilitating a solution.

B. Entry visas issued by the host country

25. At the 250th meeting, the observer of the Islamic Republic of Iran raised the issue of the denial of United States entry visas to Iranian representatives. He stated that on 27 October 2010, his Permanent Mission had sent a note verbale to the United States Mission in which it expressed its objection to the denial of entry visas to certain Iranian officials who had intended to attend the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly. He noted that the same issue had been raised at the meeting of the Committee on 28 October 2010, and the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran had expressed its serious concern at the repeated failure of the host country to abide by its international obligations under the Headquarters Agreement. In a note verbale dated 7 December 2010, the United States Mission had not provided an explanation for why the host country authorities had persistently denied entry visas to representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which prevented them from attending official meetings of the United Nations. He also wished to express his dissatisfaction with the reasoning given by the host country that only two Iranian officials out of a much larger number had been denied visas. This explanation did not justify the visa denials. He noted that the two persons referred to in the note verbale were deputy foreign ministers with direct responsibilities for United Nations affairs. Moreover, Mohammad Mehdi Akhondzadeh Basti, Deputy Foreign Minister for International and Legal Affairs, had since been denied an entry visa for the second time. While the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran had always been appreciative of the work carried out by the host country authorities in fulfilling their obligations under the Headquarters Agreement, he stated that those obligations to Member States could not be qualified or quantified to certain numbers. The fact that the host country had issued visas to the majority of Iranian delegates could not justify the denial of entry visas to others, nor would it absolve the host country of its obligations under international law. He referred to the case of Behruz Kamalvandi, Deputy Foreign Minister for the Americas, in which the United States had claimed, in its note verbale of 7 December 2010, that his application had been withdrawn prior to issuance of the visa. He wished to point out, however, that Mr. Kamalvandi had withdrawn his visa application days after the meeting that he had planned to attend since it had already taken place. The long delays in issuing visas and the practice of issuing them after the events for which they were required were tantamount to the denial of visas. The Islamic Republic of Iran continued to urge the host country to comply with its obligations under the Headquarters Agreement, in particular sections 11, 12 and 13, with regard to the issuance of entry visas for representatives of Member States.

26. The representative of the host country responded to the observer of the Islamic Republic of Iran by pointing out that in the course of 2010, 205 entry visas had been issued to members of the Iranian delegation that attended the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly. Only two applicants had been denied visas. The representative of the host country reassured the Islamic Republic of Iran that the decision to deny an entry visa had been taken at the highest levels of the United States Government, and that those decisions were based entirely on national security concerns. An individual whose visa was not approved in the prior year may or may not find it difficult to obtain a visa to attend the next general debate. He noted that the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States Mission worked closely throughout the year with regard to visa issuance, which demonstrates how seriously the United States Mission takes its treaty obligations to

the diplomatic community in regard to visa issuance. He reassured the observer of the Islamic Republic of Iran that the host country stands ready to assist his Permanent Mission in avoiding logistical and other problems that could delay decisions on visa applications for Iranian delegates.

27. At the 252nd meeting, the representative of Cuba expressed concern over delays in requests for and renewals of visas. He mentioned several cases where official personnel of the Cuban Mission had been prevented from participating in meetings in New York because they had not been issued visas. All the visas had eventually been granted, but not in time for the Cuban delegates to attend the meetings, which in the view of the representative of Cuba was tantamount to denial of the visa. He reminded the host country of its international obligations under the Headquarters Agreement and asked the host country to review its measures and take appropriate steps to avoid future delays in the issuance of visas.

28. The representative of the host country responded to the concerns expressed by the representative of Cuba by reassuring him that the host country takes its responsibilities very seriously and is mindful of its responsibilities under the Headquarters Agreement. He explained that the host country receives a large number of visa applications, and that very few of them are denied. At the same time, he reminded the representative of Cuba that none of the Cuban visa requests had been denied. The representative of the host country stated that he did not have any direct knowledge of the cases mentioned by the representative of Cuba and could therefore not make any specific comments about them. However, he underlined that any Permanent Mission that is of the opinion that a visa request has been unduly delayed should contact him directly and in time for him, as the head of the host country section, to be able to assist in the matter.

C. Question of security of missions and safety of personnel

29. At the 252nd meeting, the representative of Cuba stated that he had asked to have the item of the security of Permanent Missions and safety of personnel included in the agenda owing to the presence of Luis Posada Carriles, who was travelling freely throughout the United States. It was well known that Mr. Posada Carriles caused the explosion of a plane with 37 passengers on board. On 17 May 2011, in an act of provocation, Mr. Posada Carriles, accompanied by five people with terrorist backgrounds, had appeared on the corner of Lexington Avenue and 38th Street, where the premises of the Permanent Mission are located. This reflected again the freedom of movement that Mr. Posada Carriles enjoys in the territory of the United States, including the City of New York, and the impunity with which he is allowed to act. The Government of Cuba has provided evidence to the United States that Mr. Posada Carriles has publicly acknowledged his crimes on television programmes and to important United States journalists. In addition, the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Intelligence Agency point out in declassified documents that he is responsible for terrorist acts. The Permanent Mission was also alarmed at news of Mr. Posada Carriles' activities in New York, including meeting with United States Senator Robert Menendez and fund-raising at a restaurant to support violent actions against Cuba. These activities, carried out with the permission of the United States authorities, involve a serious danger to the security of diplomatic representatives to the United Nations and members of the public in the City. The United States authorities must comply with their obligations

to prosecute and extradite terrorists such as Mr. Posada Carriles. He stated that the Permanent Mission of Cuba would hold the United States Government responsible for any consequences that could stem from the provocations just mentioned.

30. The representative of the host country stated that the Committee did not have the mandate to discuss terrorism, which properly fell within the purview of other forums in the United Nations. He would therefore limit his remarks to points directly linked to the safety and security of Permanent Missions in regard to the incident in May 2011 as it related to Mr. Posada Carriles. In this regard, he noted that the Cuban Interests Section of the Embassy of Switzerland in Washington, D.C., had issued a detailed note verbale concerning Mr. Posada Carriles to the United States Department of State, and that discussions have been taking place on this matter in Washington, D.C., which is where he would wish to leave them in terms of the Committee. As soon as the United States Mission had learned of the appearance of Mr. Posada Carriles and others outside the Permanent Mission of Cuba, it had immediately called the State Department Diplomatic Security Service which in turn coordinated with the New York City Police Department, who then liaised with the Permanent Mission of Cuba. Special police attention was given to the premises of Permanent Missions, which lasted for a number of days. In general, as soon as the United States authorities find out about a threat to a Permanent Mission, be it Cuba or others, the Diplomatic Security Service informs the New York City Police Department and the United States Mission. Three-way conversations are then held with the affected Permanent Mission to discuss how best to ensure the safety and security of the Permanent Mission and its personnel. The representative of the host country wished to emphasize that this is what the United States authorities did with the Permanent Mission of Cuba and what it would do for any Permanent Mission that needed it.

31. The representative of Cuba expressed his gratitude for the host country's acknowledgement that Mr. Posada Carriles' presence was a threat to the security of the Permanent Mission of Cuba. He wished to reiterate that Mr. Posada Carriles posed a threat not only to Cuban officials, but also to the diplomatic community in New York and to the citizens of New York City. In this regard, he recalled a number of other killings and attacks attributed to Mr. Posada Carriles and associated groups over the years. Accordingly, it was very relevant to discuss such matters in the Committee. In this regard, he urged the host country to strictly comply with its international obligations and guarantee the security of diplomats accredited to the United Nations.

32. The representative of the host country stated that he did not wish to discuss incidents that had happened 27 years ago and which had been debated in the Committee at that time. He did, however, wish to correct the understanding of the representative of Cuba that the United States necessarily shared the view of the Permanent Mission of Cuba on the presence of Mr. Posada Carriles. The United States had responded to a request from the Cuban Permanent Mission which had indicated that it felt threatened. If a Permanent Mission or diplomat feels threatened, it is the host country's responsibility to get to the bottom of the matter, to do an analysis and discuss the matter with the Permanent Mission and the individuals concerned and to take the measures the host country considers necessary, consistent with the host country's obligations to protect the Permanent Mission or, as in the present case, to protect against what was assumed to be a threat by the Permanent Mission.

33. The representative of Cuba expressed surprise at the host country representative's conflicting statement and said that he found it difficult to believe that the presence of Mr. Posada Carriles in New York City and his fund-raising activities in New York and New Jersey were not considered a threat. He also wished to note that what was being discussed was not international terrorism, which Cuba was well aware is dealt with in other forums, but the presence in the country of a terrorist who posed a threat not only to the Cuban Permanent Mission but to the diplomatic community and the population at large.

34. The representative of Malaysia explained that the Permanent Mission of Malaysia had been warned by the New York City Police Department of a planned demonstration of approximately 20 people that would take place in front of the Permanent Mission on 9 July 2011. The Permanent Mission felt confident that the United States authorities would ably manage the situation. She wished to extend Malaysia's gratitude to the New York City Police Department and the United States Department of State for their effective management of the demonstration, which she noted had remained peaceful, even though it had grown to around 120 persons.

D. Transportation: use of motor vehicles, parking and related matters

35. At the 252nd meeting, the representative of China stated that she wished to raise some concerns regarding the Parking Programme for Diplomatic Vehicles (Diplomatic Parking Programme). Despite having some reservations with respect to certain provisions of the Diplomatic Parking Programme, her Government has always understood positively the intentions of New York City in implementing the Programme. Her Permanent Mission has been cautious in parking its diplomatic vehicles and fully respected the relevant provisions of the Diplomatic Parking Programme. Regrettably, however, there had been incidents where the provisions of the Diplomatic Parking Programme had been improperly implemented, resulting in fines being levied against the Permanent Mission of China. Two of the Mission's vehicles that were parked in 24-hour spots assigned to the Permanent Mission had been issued 13 tickets by the New York City Traffic Police for exceeding the time allocated for parking. The New York City authorities seem to have confused the permanent and temporary diplomatic parking spaces assigned to the Permanent Mission of China. The matter had been raised with the United States Mission and the Diplomatic Parking Review and Appeals Panels, which resulted in seven of the tickets being cancelled. As a result, the extension of the registration and issuance of licence plates for vehicles of the Permanent Mission had been affected, thus seriously disrupting the work of the Permanent Mission. In this regard, she wished to note that the United States Mission had provided active cooperation to the Chinese Permanent Mission. Regrettably, the review and appeals procedures under the Diplomatic Parking Programme had failed to properly correct the improper acts she had just mentioned. She therefore wished to make the following points. First, on the basis of respecting the long-time cooperation and relations with the United States and to restore the extension of the registration and issuance of licence plates to vehicles of the Permanent Mission, the Chinese Permanent Mission had agreed to compromise and pay the fines without acknowledging the validity of the fines. Second, the Chinese Permanent Mission urged the United States to strengthen the training of the relevant New York City law enforcement personnel, to strictly distinguish between permanent and temporary diplomatic parking spaces, and to cease the arbitrary issuance of tickets. At the same time, her Permanent Mission was

pleased to note that the City of New York had decided to rearrange the locations of the permanent and temporary diplomatic parking spaces assigned to the Permanent Mission. Third, the United States should further assess the problems that have arisen in the implementation of the Diplomatic Parking Programme, in particular the application of the relevant procedures provided to Permanent Missions to dispute parking tickets. Fourth, the Permanent Mission of China wished to express its reservations with regard to the host country's delay in, or refusal to extend, the registration and issuance of licence plates for vehicles of the Permanent Mission while the ticketing issue she had just described had been under discussion and review.

36. The representative of the host country thanked the representative of China for her intervention. He recalled that, to the best of his knowledge, this was the first problem concerning the Diplomatic Parking Programme in a year or more. While he was sorry about the problems the Permanent Mission of China had experienced, it was a reflection that the Diplomatic Parking Programme was generally working well. He wished to emphasize that the United States Department of State and the City of New York were extremely committed to making sure that the Diplomatic Parking Programme worked well and were happy to address any valid concerns raised either in the Committee, in a diplomatic note or through direct contact with the United States Department of State's parking coordinator, Lisa Bowen. Ms. Bowen was extensively involved in finding a solution to the problem raised by the representative of China and had participated in meetings between representatives of the Permanent Mission of China and the City of New York to find a solution. He had also been advised by the Department of State Office of Foreign Missions that no Chinese vehicles had been held up under the sanctions measures provided under the Diplomatic Parking Programme and that there had been no problems with the registration of Chinese vehicles at the time. He also wished to thank and congratulate the Permanent Mission of China for being one of the best Permanent Missions in terms of adhering to the terms of the Diplomatic Parking Programme. On the issue of training, under the terms of the Diplomatic Parking Programme, the City of New York provides training to its parking enforcement officials. In addition, the New York City Commission for the United Nations, Consular Corps and Protocol has regular meetings with law enforcement officials to discuss parking concerns raised by the diplomatic community. He was confident that should there be a need for consultations between the New York City Commission and the review or appeals panels, the Commission would be willing to look into the matter. Part of the difficulty with respect to training is that there are a number of different police officials concerned with parking, and they are frequently rotated through different positions. He and the New York City Commissioner were fully prepared to hear from and work with Permanent Missions that were experiencing parking problems. It was very important for members of the diplomatic community and the residents of Manhattan to ensure that the Diplomatic Parking Programme was working well.

E. Other matters

37. At the 253rd meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation stated that he wished to raise two incidents that had occurred during the high-level segment of the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly, which had affected the Russian delegation. First, members of the high-level Russian delegation attending the

meeting of the Group of Eight on the Deauville Partnership, held in the Intercontinental Hotel on 20 September 2011, had been subjected to improper treatment by United States security personnel. Second, the Russian delegation, comprising senior Government officials, along with a number of high-level dignitaries from other Member States, were delayed by United States security personnel for half an hour at 8.30 a.m. while walking to the General Assembly, which was an unacceptably long time. He understood that the freeze in pedestrian traffic was due to the imminent arrival of President Obama's motorcade at the United Nations. His Government well understood and supported the implementation of special security measures required for such events, and in particular during the tenth anniversary of 11 September 2001. However, such measures must be implemented in a manner that did not offend senior Government representatives. He noted that similar incidents had not occurred in the Russian Federation where the security services treat foreign dignitaries appropriately. He trusted that the United States authorities would look into the matter, ensure that security service personnel were properly trained and ensure that similar incidents did not occur at future sessions of the General Assembly.

38. The representative of the host country thanked the representative of the Russian Federation for his acknowledgment of the special security concerns that the host country had to deal with, in particular given the tenth anniversary of 11 September 2001. He had not been aware of any problems at the meeting of the Group of Eight on 20 September. He intended to follow up with his authorities and then contact the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to discuss the concerns expressed. With respect to the second point, his Government regretted the delay and inconvenience experienced by the Foreign Minister and representatives of other Member States, including his own, by the freeze in pedestrian traffic. He understood that the unusual delay had been caused by the near simultaneous movement of President Obama's motorcade and that of the President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, in the vicinity of United Nations Headquarters. Thomas Buda, who serves as the United States Mission's liaison with the various law enforcement agencies, did contact at the time the New York City Police officers and Secret Service agents who were in control of the intersection; however, they were not in a position to permit anyone to cross the street during the freeze. The representative of the host country was confident that the United States law enforcement authorities would try to avoid having such a situation occur at future sessions of the General Assembly. The representative of the Russian Federation thanked the representative of the United States for his apology concerning the delay and his offer to look into the incident which occurred during the Group of Eight meeting.

Chapter IV
Recommendations and conclusions

39. **At its 254th meeting, on 2 November 2011, the Committee approved the following recommendations and conclusions:**

(a) **The Committee reaffirms the Headquarters Agreement and the provisions of the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and the 1946 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations;**

(b) **Considering that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the delegations and missions accredited to the United Nations is in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, the Committee appreciates the efforts made by the host country to that end and anticipates that all issues raised at its meetings, including those referred to below, will be duly settled in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;**

(c) **The Committee notes that the observance of privileges and immunities is an issue of great importance. The Committee emphasizes the need to solve, through negotiations, problems that might arise in this regard for the normal functioning of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations. The Committee urges the host country to continue to take appropriate action, such as training of police, security, Customs and border control officers, with a view to maintaining respect for diplomatic privileges and immunities. If violations occur, the Committee urges the host country to ensure that such cases are properly investigated and remedied, in accordance with applicable law;**

(d) **Considering that the security of the missions accredited to the United Nations and the safety of their personnel are indispensable for their effective functioning, and noting in this regard the concerns reported, the Committee appreciates the efforts made by the host country to this end and anticipates that the host country will continue to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of the missions;**

(e) **The Committee notes the problems experienced by some permanent missions in connection with the implementation of the Diplomatic Parking Programme and shall remain seized of the matter, with a view to continuously ensuring the proper implementation of the Programme in a manner that is fair, non-discriminatory, effective and therefore consistent with international law;**

(f) **The Committee requests the host country to continue to bring to the attention of New York City officials reports about other problems experienced by permanent missions or their staff in order to improve the conditions for their functioning and to promote compliance with international norms concerning diplomatic privileges and immunities and to continue to consult with the Committee on these important issues;**

(g) **The Committee recalls that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI), the Committee shall consider and advise the host country on issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations;**

(h) The Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance its efforts to ensure the issuance, in a timely manner, of entry visas to representatives of Member States pursuant to article IV, section 11, of the Headquarters Agreement to travel to New York on official United Nations business, including to attend official United Nations meetings, and notes that a number of delegations have requested shortening the time frame applied by the host country for issuance of entry visas to representatives of Member States, since this time frame poses difficulties for the full-fledged participation of Member States in United Nations meetings; the Committee also anticipates that the host country will continue to enhance efforts to facilitate participation, including visa issuance, of representatives of Member States in other United Nations meetings, as appropriate;

(i) Concerning travel regulations issued by the host country with regard to personnel of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities, the Committee urges the host country to remove the remaining travel restrictions and, in that regard, notes the positions of the affected Member States as reflected in the report, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

(j) The Committee stresses the importance of permanent missions, their personnel and Secretariat personnel meeting their financial obligations;

(k) The Committee expresses concern over the decision by JPMorgan Chase Bank to close all bank accounts held by permanent missions to the United Nations by 31 March 2011 and welcomes the efforts of the host country to facilitate the opening of bank accounts for permanent missions with other financial institutions;

(l) The Committee welcomes the participation of Members of the United Nations that are not members of the Committee in its work. The Committee also welcomes the contribution of the Secretariat in its work and emphasizes its importance. The Committee is convinced that its important work has been strengthened by the cooperation of all concerned;

(m) The Committee wishes to reiterate its appreciation to the representative of the United States Mission in charge of host country affairs, to the Host Country Affairs Section of the United States Mission to the United Nations and the Office of Foreign Missions, as well as to those local entities, in particular the New York City Commission for the United Nations, Consular Corps and Protocol, that participate in its meetings and contribute to its efforts to help accommodate the needs, interests and requirements of the diplomatic community and to promote mutual understanding between the diplomatic community and the people of the City of New York.

Annex I

List of topics for consideration by the Committee

1. Question of the security of missions and the safety of their personnel.
2. Consideration of and recommendations on issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations, including:
   (a) Entry visas issued by the host country;
   (b) Acceleration of immigration and Customs procedures;
   (c) Exemption from taxes.
3. Responsibilities of permanent missions to the United Nations and their personnel, in particular the problem of claims of financial indebtedness and procedures to be followed with a view to resolving the issues relating thereto.
4. Housing for diplomatic personnel and for Secretariat staff.
5. Question of privileges and immunities:
   (a) Comparative study of privileges and immunities;
   (b) Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations and other relevant instruments.
6. Host country activities: activities to assist members of the United Nations community.
7. Transportation: use of motor vehicles, parking and related matters.
8. Insurance, education and health.
9. Public relations of the United Nations community in the host city and the question of encouraging the mass media to publicize the functions and status of permanent missions to the United Nations.
10. Consideration and adoption of the report of the Committee to the General Assembly.

Annex II

List of documents

A/AC.154/401	Letter dated 27 October 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country
A/AC.154/402	Letter dated 10 December 2010 from the Minister Counsellor for Host Country Affairs of the United States Mission to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country
A/AC.154/403	Letter dated 16 March 2011 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Chair of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

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United Nations

Report of the Conference on Disarmament

2011 session

General Assembly
Official Records
Sixty-sixth Session
Supplement No. 27

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United Nations • New York, 2011

Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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I. Introduction

1. The Conference on Disarmament submits to the sixty-sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly its annual report on its 2011 session, together with the pertinent documents and records.

II. Organization of the work of the Conference

A. 2011 session of the Conference

2. The Conference was in session from 24 January to 1 April, 16 May to 1 July and 2 August to 16 September 2011. During this period, the Conference held 45 formal plenary meetings, at which member States as well as non-member States invited to participate in the discussions outlined their views and recommendations on the various questions before the Conference.

3. The Conference also held 10 informal plenary meetings on its agenda items, programme of work, organization and procedures, as well as on other matters.

4. In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the following member States assumed successively the Presidency of the Conference: Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Cuba.[1]

5. At the second plenary meeting of the 2011 session on 26 January, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, delivered an important message (CD/PV.1199) in which he, inter alia, reflected on the accomplishments of the Conference as the world's single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, its role and its function, and suggested options that could be explored to break the long-standing deadlock and to start substantive work, including through the adoption by consensus of a programme of work, early in the 2011 session.

6. In addition, upon the joint invitation of the President of the Conference, Ambassador Marius Grinius (Canada) and the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Sergei A. Ordzhonikidze, the following dignitaries addressed the Conference on Disarmament: Mr. Joseph Deiss, President of the United Nations General Assembly (CD/PV.1209); Mr. Michael Spindelegger, Federal Minister for European and International Affairs of Austria (CD/PV.1209); Ms. Hillary Clinton, Secretary of State of the United States of America (CD/PV.1210); Mr. Lawrence Cannon, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada (CD/PV.1210); Mr. Alexander Stubb, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland (CD/PV.1210); Mr. Juan Manuel Gomez Robledo, Vice-Minister for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of Mexico (CD/PV.1210); Mr. Sergey Lavrov, Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation (CD/PV.1211); Mr. Aliakbar Salehi, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran (CD/PV.1211); Mr. Iurie Leancă, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova (CD/PV.1211); Mr. Kevin Rudd, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia (CD/PV.1211); Mr. Samuel Zbogar, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Slovenia

[1] An agreement was reached at the 1227th plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament that Cuba and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea would switch the order in which they served as President.

(CD/PV.1211); Mr. Kasit Piromya, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand (CD/PV.1211); Mr. Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba (CD/PV.1211); Mr. Dipu Moni, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh (CD/PV.1211); Mr. Min Dong-seok, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea (CD/PV.1211); Mr. Doru Romulus Costea, State Secretary for Global Affairs of Romania (CD/PV.1212); Mr. Ikuo Yamahana, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan (CD/PV.1212); Mr. Gazmend Turdiu, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Albania (CD/PV.1212); Mr. Gregory Vashadze, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia (CD/PV.1214); Mr. Abelardo Moreno Fernandez, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba (CD/PV.1234). In addition to the above dignitaries, Mr. Ahmet Üzümcü, Director-General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), and Ms. Gioconda Ubeda, Secretary-General of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (OPANAL), addressed the Plenary of the Conference on Disarmament, respectively on 24 May and 16 June 2011 (CD/PV. 1225 and CD/PV.1228).

7. In their addresses, these dignitaries variously expressed support for the Conference, expressed concern about its current situation and set out their national priorities for the work of the Conference.

8. The substantive secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament was composed as follows: Mr. Sergei A. Ordzhonikidze, Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (until 30 April 2011); Mr. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (as of 19 May 2011); Mr. Jarmo Sareva, Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Director of the Geneva Branch, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, and Mr. Valère Mantels, Senior Political Affairs Officer and Secretary of the Conference on Disarmament.

B. Participants in the work of the Conference

9. The representatives of the following 65 member States participated in the work of the Conference: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands (the), New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

C. Attendance and participation of States not members of the Conference

10. In accordance with the rules of procedure and the decision taken at its 1990 session on its improved and effective functioning (CD/1036), the Conference received and considered requests for participation in its work from 41 States not members of the Conference. Accordingly, the Conference invited the following non-member States to participate in its work: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Holy See, Iceland, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Oman, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovenia, Sudan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United Arab Emirates and Uruguay.

11. The following documents dealing with the issue of attendance and participation of States not members of the Conference were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/1903, entitled "Letter dated 25 January 2011 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Turkey addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament regarding the requests for participation in the work of the Conference during 2011 from non-member States";

(b) CD/1905, entitled "Letter dated 11 February 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament regarding the position of Cyprus on the issue raised in document CD/1903 dated 26 January 2011".

D. Agenda and programme of work for the 2011 session

12. At its 1198th plenary meeting on 25 January 2011, following a debate in which the content of the draft agenda presented by the President of the Conference, Ambassador Marius Grinius of Canada, was reviewed in accordance with rule 29 of the rules of procedure, the Conference on Disarmament, after considering different proposals, adopted its agenda for the 2011 session (CD/PV.1198). The agenda (CD/1902) reads as follows:

> "Taking into account, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, and deciding to resume its consultations on the review of its agenda, and without prejudice to their outcome, the Conference adopts the following agenda for its 2011 session:
>
> 1. Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.
>
> 2. Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters.
>
> 3. Prevention of an arms race in outer space.
>
> 4. Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

5. New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons.

6. Comprehensive programme of disarmament.

7. Transparency in armaments.

8. Consideration and adoption of the annual report and any other report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly of the United Nations."

13. Subsequently, the President made the following statement: "In connection with the adoption of the agenda, I, as the President of the Conference, should like to state that it is my understanding that if there is a consensus in the Conference to deal with any issues, they could be dealt with within this agenda. The Conference will also take into consideration paragraphs 27 and 30 of the rules of procedure of the Conference."

14. Pursuant to paragraph 53 of the 2010 report of the Conference (CD/1900), the last President of the 2010 session (Cameroon) and the first President of the 2011 session (Canada) conducted informal consultations during the intersessional period with a view to commencing early substantive work during the 2011 session of the Conference. These consultations were conducted in cooperation with the five incoming Presidents of the 2011 session (Chile, China, Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Cuba).

15. Successive Presidents of the Conference conducted consultations to establish a programme of work, however, the Conference did not reach consensus on a programme of work for the 2011 session.

16. At the plenary meeting on 25 January 2011, the President, Ambassador Marius Grinius of Canada, proposed an indicative timetable for discussion of all agenda items in plenary meetings of the Conference (CD/PV.1198). At the 1207th plenary meeting on 22 February 2011, the President, Ambassador Pedro Oyarce of Chile, circulated an indicative timetable (CD/WP.564) for an exchange of views on all agenda items in plenary meetings of the Conference.

17. At the 1219th plenary meeting on 29 March 2011, under the Presidency of Ambassador Wang Qun of China, the Conference agreed upon a schedule of informal meetings of the Conference on its agenda items (CD/1907). Pursuant to CD/1907, these informal discussions were neither pre-negotiations nor negotiations, and complemented and in no case replaced the Conference on Disarmament's ongoing activities. The chairs/coordinators were required to report orally, in their personal capacity, on the discussions of the various substantive agenda items to the President who, in conjunction with each of them, would finalize the reports, under his/her own responsibility. The reports would not affect in any way the positions of the members of the Conference on Disarmament.

E. Expansion of the membership of the Conference

18. The question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings. Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records. Suggestions were made for the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on Enlargement (CD/PV.1223).

19. Upon the request of Serbia, the President asked the Secretariat to compile a non-paper containing basic documents of the Conference on Disarmament related to the work of the Special Coordinators on the issue of expansion of the Membership. Such a non-paper was circulated at the 1229th plenary meeting of the Conference.

20. Since 1982, requests for membership have been received from the following 25 non-members, in chronological order: Greece, Croatia, Kuwait, Portugal, Slovenia, Czech Republic, Costa Rica, Denmark, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Cyprus, Lithuania, Ghana, Luxembourg, Uruguay, Philippines, Azerbaijan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Armenia, Thailand, Georgia, Jordan, Estonia, Latvia, Malta and Serbia.

F. Review of the agenda of the Conference

21. The review of the agenda of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings. Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records.

G. Improved and effective functioning of the Conference

22. The improved and effective functioning of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings. Their views on the issue are duly reflected in the plenary records.

23. Members of the Conference expressed their views on the high-level meeting held on 24 September 2010 on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations and on its follow-up debates. They discussed the situation of the Conference on Disarmament and ways to strengthen it in informal plenary meetings held on 9 and 14 June 2011. On 30 June 2011, they had an informal plenary meeting in the presence of the Secretary-General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, during which the issue of revitalizing the work of the Conference and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations was discussed by the members of the Conference. During the plenary meeting of 4 August 2011, members of the Conference as well as the Secretary-General of the Conference expressed their views on the debate in the General Assembly meeting held from 27 to 29 July 2011 as the follow-up plenary meeting to the 2010 high-level meeting (CD/PV.1231). The various views and concerns of the delegations on the ongoing situation of impasse for over a decade, due to lack of consensus, are duly reflected in the plenary records of the Conference.

24. The following documents dealing with this issue were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/1911, dated 21 June 2011, entitled "Letter of 16 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Austria addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the common statement of 29 delegations to the Conference on Disarmament on the high-level meeting follow-up debate in the General Assembly, delivered on 9 June 2011";

(b) CD/1913, dated 30 June 2011, entitled "Letter dated 27 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a document entitled 'Thoughts on the

current state of the Conference on Disarmament and how to strengthen it' as a contribution by Colombia, in its national capacity, concerning the way in which it perceived the reflection exercise carried out on this issue at the Conference on 9 and 14 June 2011", in which Colombia, in its national capacity, understood, registered and reflected the debate in the Conference;

(c) CD/1920, dated 7 September 2011, entitled "Letter dated 1 September 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Austria addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the letter submitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the General Assembly under agenda item 162, on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations";

(d) CD/1922, dated 13 September 2011, entitled "Nigeria on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Work of the Conference on Disarmament".

H. Communications from non-governmental organizations

25. In accordance with rule 42 of the rules of procedure, a list of communications from non-governmental organizations or their representatives was circulated to the Conference (CD/NGC/45).

26. In line with the decision taken at the 1172nd plenary meeting (CD/PV.1172), to mark the International Women's Day, a statement of the Working Group on Peace of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women related to peace, security and disarmament issues was read by Ms. Adilia Caravaca on behalf of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom at the 1214th plenary meeting on 8 March 2011 (CD/PV.1214).

III. Substantive work of the Conference during its 2011 session

27. During its 2011 session, the Conference held a series of plenary meetings to discuss all substantive agenda items, as follows: (a) from 1 to 17 February — five plenary meetings in accordance with the indicative timetable proposed by Ambassador Marius Grinius of Canada on 25 January 2011; and (b) from 24 February to 17 March — five plenary meetings in accordance with the indicative timetable suggested by Ambassador Pedro Oyarce of Chile (CD/WP.564). In addition, from 29 March to 25 May the Conference held informal meetings on all substantive agenda items in accordance with the schedule contained in document CD/1907, adopted during the Presidency of Ambassador Wan Qun of China.

28. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations affirmed or further elaborated their respective position on the agenda items. These positions are duly recorded in the related official documents, as well as the plenary records of the session.

29. On 1 September 2011, pursuant to CD/1907, the President of the Conference on Disarmament, Ambassador Reyes Rodríguez of Cuba, addressed a letter to the Conference transmitting the oral reports of the five coordinators prepared in their personal capacity and finalized by the President under his own responsibility on the work done by these coordinators during the informal meetings (CD/1918).

30. The list of documents issued by the Conference, as well as the texts of those documents, are included as appendix I to the present report.[2] An index of the verbatim records, by country and by subject, listing the statements made by delegations during 2011 and the verbatim records of the formal plenary meetings of the Conference, is provided in appendix II.[2]

31. The Conference had before it a letter dated 17 January 2011 from the Secretary-General of the United Nations (CD/1901 and Add.1) transmitting the resolutions and decisions on disarmament and international security matters adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, in 2010, including those making specific reference to the Conference on Disarmament. The latter are listed below:

65/43 Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons (operative paragraphs 2, 4 and 5)

65/44 Prevention of an arms race in outer space (operative paragraphs 5, 6 and 8)

65/45 Regional disarmament (operative paragraphs 1 and 2)

65/56 Nuclear disarmament (operative paragraphs 15, 16, 19 and 20)

65/59 Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments (operative paragraph 7)

65/65 Treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices (operative paragraph 1)

65/68 Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities (operative paragraph 2)

65/72 United action towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons (operative paragraph 9)

65/80 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons (operative paragraphs 1 and 2)

65/81 United Nations Disarmament Information Programme (operative paragraph 5)

65/85 Report of the Conference on Disarmament (operative paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8)

65/86 Report of the Disarmament Commission (operative paragraphs 5 and 9)

65/93 Follow-up to the high-level meeting held on 24 September 2010: revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral disarmament negotiations (operative paragraphs 1 and 4)

[2] To be issued separately.

A. Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament

32. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

33. The following documents were submitted to the Conference under this agenda item:

(a) CD/1904, dated 2 February 2011, entitled "Letter dated 1 February 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the press statement issued by Pakistan's National Command Authority dated 14 December 2010";

(b) CD/1906, dated 14 March 2011, entitled "Note verbale dated 9 March 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Australia to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the Chair's report of the Australia-Japan experts side event on FMCT definitions, held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva on 14-16 February 2011";

(c) CD/1908, dated 17 May 2011, entitled "Letter dated 13 May 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of the Berlin statement on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation issued by the Foreign Ministers of Australia, Canada, Chile, Germany, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Poland, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates on 30 April 2011";

(d) CD/1909, dated 27 May 2011, entitled "Note verbale dated 23 May 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Australia to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the Chair's report of the Australia-Japan experts side event on FMCT verification, held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva on 21-23 March 2011";

(e) CD/1910, dated 9 June 2011, entitled "Bulgaria, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, Romania, Spain, Sweden and Turkey. Working paper. Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT)";

(f) CD/1914, dated 4 August 2011, entitled "Letter dated 19 July 2011 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of France addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the joint press release issued at the first meeting of the five permanent members of the Security Council in follow-up to the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held in Paris on 30 June-1 July 2011";

(g) CD/1915, dated 4 August 2011, entitled "Note verbale dated 3 August 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the statement on peace and nuclear disarmament issued by the National Assembly of People's Power of the Republic of Cuba on 28 July 2011 in Havana";

(h) CD/1916 and Corr.1, dated 15 August 2011 and 19 September 2011 respectively, entitled "Letter dated 8 August 2011 from the Permanent Representatives of Argentina and Brazil to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting an article jointly authored by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of those countries

concerning the twentieth anniversary of the Agreement between Argentina and Brazil for the Exclusively Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy", creating the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials;

(i) CD/1917, dated 2 September 2011, entitled "Note verbale dated 30 August 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the report of Mr. Akio Suda, Ambassador of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament and Chair of the 'Japan-Australia Experts Side Event on FMCT Verification' held at the Palais des Nations on 30 May and 1 June 2011";

(j) CD/1919, dated 12 September 2011, entitled "Note verbale dated 1 September 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Australia to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the report entitled 'The 2011 Australia-Japan FMCT Experts Side Events: Chairs' Final Report, Mr. Peter Woolcott, Ambassador of Australia, and Mr. Akio Suda, Ambassador of Japan'";

(k) CD/1921, dated 13 September 2011, entitled "Letter dated 2 September 2011 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the United States of America addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a press release issued by the Department of State of the United States of America regarding the P-5 consultations on a fissile material cut-off treaty (FMCT) held in Geneva on 30 August 2011";

(l) CD/1923, dated 13 September 2011, entitled "Nigeria on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Nuclear Disarmament".

34. In accordance with the schedule of meetings suggested by the President of the Conference (CD/PV.1198), two plenary meetings, on agenda item 1 entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", and agenda item 2, entitled "Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters", were held on 1 and 3 February 2011 (CD/PV.1201 and CD/PV.1202). In accordance with the indicative timetable CD/WP.564, two plenary meetings on agenda items 1 and 2 were held on 24 February and 3 March 2011 (CD/PV.1208 and CD/PV.1213). In accordance with CD/1907, agenda items 1 and 2 were considered in informal plenary meetings on 29 March, and on 17 and 18 May 2011, under the chairmanship of Ambassador Kshenuka Senewiratne of Sri Lanka and Ambassador Giovanni Manfredi of Italy.

B. Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters

35. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

36. The following documents were submitted to the Conference under this agenda item:

(a) CD/1904, dated 2 February 2011, entitled "Letter dated 1 February 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the press statement issued by Pakistan's National Command Authority dated 14 December 2010";

(b) CD/1906, dated 14 March 2011, entitled "Note verbale dated 9 March 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Australia to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the Chair's report of the Australia-Japan experts side event on FMCT definitions, held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva on 14-16 February 2011";

(c) CD/1908, dated 17 May 2011, entitled "Letter dated 13 May 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of the Berlin statement on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation issued by the Foreign Ministers of Australia, Canada, Chile, Germany, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Poland, Turkey and the United Arab Emirates on 30 April 2011";

(d) CD/1909, dated 27 May 2011, entitled "Note verbale dated 23 May 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Australia to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the Chair's report of the Australia-Japan experts side event on FMCT verification, held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva on 21-23 March 2011";

(e) CD/1910, dated 9 June 2011, entitled "Bulgaria, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, Romania, Spain, Sweden and Turkey. Working paper. Fissile Material Cut-Off Treaty (FMCT)";

(f) CD/1914, dated 4 August 2011, entitled "Letter dated 19 July 2011 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of France addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the joint press release issued at the first meeting of the five permanent members of the Security Council in follow-up to the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held in Paris on 30 June-1 July 2011";

(g) CD/1915, dated 4 August 2011, entitled "Note verbale dated 3 August 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the statement on peace and nuclear disarmament issued by the National Assembly of People's Power of the Republic of Cuba on 28 July 2011 in Havana";

(h) CD/1916 and Corr.1, dated 15 August 2011 and 19 September 2011 respectively, entitled "Letter dated 8 August 2011 from the Permanent Representatives of Argentina and Brazil to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting an article jointly authored by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of those countries concerning the twentieth anniversary of the Agreement between Argentina and Brazil for the Exclusively Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy", creating the Brazilian-Argentine Agency for Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials (ABACC);

(i) CD/1917, dated 2 September 2011, entitled "Note verbale dated 30 August 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the report of Mr. Akio Suda, Ambassador of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament and Chair of the 'Japan-Australia Experts Side Event on FMCT Verification', held at the Palais des Nations on 30 May and 1 June 2011";

(j) CD/1919, dated 12 September 2011, entitled "Note verbale dated 1 September 2011 from the Permanent Mission of Australia to the Conference on

Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the report, entitled "The 2011 Australia-Japan FMCT experts side events: Chairs' final report, Mr. Peter Woolcott, Ambassador of Australia, and Mr. Akio Suda, Ambassador of Japan";

(k) CD/1921, dated 13 September 2011, entitled "Letter dated 2 September 2011 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the United States of America addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting a press release issued by the Department of State of the United States of America regarding the P-5 consultations on a fissile material cut-off treaty (FMCT) held in Geneva on 30 August 2011";

(l) CD/1923, dated 13 September 2011, entitled "Nigeria on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Nuclear Disarmament".

37. In accordance with the schedule of meetings suggested by the President of the Conference (CD/PV.1198), two plenary meetings on agenda items 1, entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", and 2, entitled "Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters" were held on 1 and 3 February 2011 (CD/PV.1201 and CD/PV.1202). In accordance with the indicative timetable CD/WP.564, two plenary meetings on agenda items 1 and 2 were held on 24 February and 3 March 2011 (CD/PV.1208 and CD/PV.1213). In accordance with CD/1907, agenda items 1 and 2 were considered in informal plenary meetings on 29 March, and on 17 and 18 May 2011 under the chairmanship of Ambassador Kshenuka Senewiratne of Sri Lanka and Ambassador Giovanni Manfredi of Italy.

C. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

38. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

39. The following documents were submitted to the Conference under this agenda item:

(a) CD/1912, dated 23 August 2011, entitled "Letter dated 21 June 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Canada to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the summary report on the tenth annual space security conference entitled 'Space security 2011: building on the past, stepping towards the future', organized by the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, in April 2011";

(b) CD/1925, dated 13 September 2011, entitled "Nigeria on behalf of member States of G-21. Working paper. Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space".

40. In accordance with the schedule of meetings suggested by the President of the Conference (CD/PV.1198), one plenary meeting, on agenda item 3, entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space", was held on 8 February 2011 (CD/PV.1203). In accordance with the indicative timetable CD/WP.564, one plenary meeting, on agenda item 3, was held on 8 March 2011 (CD/PV.1214). In accordance with CD/1907, agenda item 3 was considered in an informal plenary meeting on

31 March 2011 under the chairmanship of Ambassador Luiz Filipe de Macedo Soares of Brazil.

D. Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

41. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

42. The following document was submitted to the Conference under this agenda item:

CD/1924, dated 13 September 2011, entitled "Nigeria on behalf of member States of G 21. Working paper. Negative Security Assurances".

43. In accordance with the schedule of meetings suggested by the President of the Conference (CD/PV.1198), one plenary meeting, on agenda item 4, entitled "Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon-States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons", was held on 10 February 2011 (CD/PV.1204). In accordance with the indicative timetable CD/WP.564, one plenary meeting on agenda item 4 was held on 10 March 2011 (CD/PV.1215). In accordance with CD/1907, agenda item 4 was considered in an informal plenary meeting on 19 May 2011 under the chairmanship of Ambassador Fodé Seck of Senegal.

E. New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons

44. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

45. In accordance with the schedule of meetings suggested by the President of the Conference (CD/PV.1198) agenda item 5, entitled "New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons", was considered in a plenary meeting on 17 February 2011 (CD/PV.1206). In accordance with the indicative timetable CD/WP.564, agenda item 5 was considered in a plenary meeting on 17 March 2011 (CD/PV.1216). In accordance with CD/1907, agenda item 5 was considered in an informal plenary meeting on 25 May 2011 under the chairmanship of Ambassador Mikhail Khvostov of Belarus.

F. Comprehensive programme of disarmament

46. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

47. In accordance with the schedule of meetings suggested by the President of the Conference (CD/PV.1198) agenda item 6, entitled "Comprehensive programme of disarmament" was considered in a plenary meeting on 17 February 2011 (CD/PV.1206). In accordance with the indicative timetable CD/WP.564, agenda

item 6 was considered in a plenary meeting on 17 March 2011 (CD/PV.1216). In accordance with CD/1907, agenda item 6 was considered in an informal plenary meeting on 25 May 2011 under the chairmanship of Ambassador Mikhail Khvostov of Belarus.

G. Transparency in armaments

48. During the general debate of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item. These positions are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

49. In accordance with the schedule of meetings suggested by the President of the Conference (CD/PV.1198) agenda item 7, entitled "Transparency in armaments", was considered in a plenary meeting on 17 February 2011 (CD/PV.1206). In accordance with the indicative timetable CD/WP.564, agenda item 7 was considered in a plenary meeting on 17 March 2011 (CD/PV.1216). In accordance with CD/1907, agenda item 7 was considered in an informal plenary meeting on 25 May 2011, under the chairmanship of Ambassador Mikhail Khvostov of Belarus.

H. Consideration of other areas dealing with the cessation of the arms race and disarmament and other relevant measures

50. No documents were submitted on this subject during the 2011 session of the Conference.

I. Consideration and adoption of the annual report of the Conference and any other report as appropriate to the General Assembly of the United Nations

51. With the growing importance of multilateral disarmament, and building on the focused efforts in the Conference on Disarmament to establish a programme of work for the 2011 session, and with a view to early commencement of substantive work during its 2012 session, the Conference requested the current President and the incoming President to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, make recommendations taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference on Disarmament, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations.

52. The Conference decided that the dates for its 2012 session would be:

First part:	23 January-30 March
Second part:	14 May-29 June
Third part:	30 July-14 September

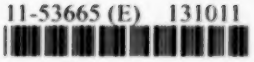
53. The annual report to the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, as adopted by the Conference on 15 September 2011, is transmitted by the President on behalf of the Conference on Disarmament.

Rodolfo Reyes Rodríguez

Cuba

President of the Conference

11-53665 (E) 131011



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